

What is Claimed is:

1. An image output apparatus, comprising:  
an image reading section for reading an image  
on a document and converting the image into image  
5 data;

an image storing section for storing the  
image data read by the image reading section;

an image output section for outputting the  
image corresponding to the document on the basis  
10 of the image data stored in the image storing  
section;

an index recognizing circuit for  
image-recognizing, when an index sheet carrying  
index information is read by said image reading  
15 section, the index information on the index sheet;  
and

an index registering circuit for registering  
the index information recognized by the index  
recognizing circuit and corresponding storage area  
20 designation information for designating a storage  
area in said image storing section, associated with  
each other; and

a circuit for storing an image data  
representing a document which has been read by said  
25 image reading section subsequently to an index

sheet in a storage area, in said image storing section, to be designated by a storage area designation information associated with said index information.

5           2. The image output apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

          a circuit for overwriting, when the index information recognized by said index recognizing circuit has already been registered by said index  
10   registering circuit, an image data representing a document which has been read by said image reading section subsequently to the index sheet on the storage area, in said image storing section which is to be designated by the storage area designation  
15   information associated with the index information.

          3. The image output apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

          an index image output instruction accepting section for accepting an index image output  
20   instruction for outputting a document image corresponding to an index information carried on an index sheet, and

          an index image output control circuit for reading out, when said index recognizing circuit  
25   recognizes the index information in a state where

the index image output instruction is accepted by the index image output instruction accepting section, the image data, in said image storing section, to be designated by the storage area designation information associated with the  
5 recognized index information, and causing the image output section to output the image corresponding to the image data.

4. The image output apparatus according to  
10 claim 1, further comprising

an index sheet issue instruction accepting section for accepting an instruction to issue the index sheet, and

an index sheet output control circuit for  
15 outputting the index sheet to said image output section in response to the acceptance of the instruction to issue the index sheet by the index sheet issue instruction accepting section.